

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of)	
)	
Federal-State Joint Board on)	CC Docket No. 96-45
Universal Service Seeks Comment on)	
Proposals to Modify the Commission's Rules)	
Relating to High-Cost Universal Service)	
Support)	

**COMMENTS OF QWEST COMMUNICATIONS INTERNATIONAL INC. IN
SUPPORT OF VERIZON'S MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

Qwest Communications International Inc. ("Qwest") hereby supports Verizon's Motion for Extension of Time¹ for filing comments and reply comments on the Public Notice² regarding Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service ("Joint Board") proposals for reform of the federal universal service high-cost mechanism for rural carriers. The short extensions of time sought by Verizon are likely to result in a more complete record, which would aid the Joint Board in its preparation of a Recommended Decision on the complex universal service issues in question.

The Joint Board should grant both extensions sought by Verizon. Additional time is necessary for commenters to analyze fully the four detailed proposals attached to the Public Notice. Likewise, it is important that the Joint Board extend the period for filing replies, in order to allow sufficient time for parties to consider other proposals or variations of proposals that are likely to be filed in the initial round of comments.

¹ Motion for Extension of Time, filed September 8, 2005, CC Docket No. 96-45.

² See Public Notice, *Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service Seeks Comment on Proposals to Modify the Commission's Rules Relating to High-Cost Universal Service Support*, CC Docket No. 96-45, FCC 05J-1 (rel. Aug. 17, 2005).

For the foregoing reasons, Qwest urges the Joint Board to grant Verizon's Motion for Extension of Time.

Respectfully submitted,

By: /s/ Craig J. Brown
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Its Attorneys

September 8, 2005

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Ross Dino, do hereby certify that I have caused the foregoing **COMMENTS OF QWEST COMMUNICATIONS INTERNATIONAL INC. IN SUPPORT OF VERIZON'S MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME** to be: 1) filed with the FCC via its Electronic Comment Filing System in CC Docket No. 96-45; 2) served via e-mail on Ms. Sheryl Todd, of the Telecommunications Access Policy Division of the Wireline Competition Bureau at (Sheryl.Todd@fcc.gov); 3) served via e-mail on the FCC's duplicating contractor, Best Copy and Printing, Inc. at (fcc@bcpweb.com); and 4) served via e-mail on Ms. Ann Rakestraw, Counsel for the Verizon telephone companies at (ann.h.rakestraw@verizon.com).

/s/ Ross Dino

Ross Dino

September 8, 2005